



CALAVERAS COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS AGENDA SUBMITTAL

Short Name/Subject Traffic/Engineering Study for Valley Springs Elementary School	Board Meeting Date September 12, 2017	Agenda Number 23
Dept: Public Works Contact: Jeff Crovitz Phone: 209/754-6402	Supervisory District Number District 1	Regular Agenda
Published Notice Required? No Public Hearing Required? No		Estimated Time: 15 Minutes
Type of Document? Action Item PowerPoint Presentation Included? No Budget Transfer Included (Must be signed by Auditor)? No Complete Agreement Required? No Position Allocation Change? No		

RECOMMENDATION:

Authorize the Director of Public Works to advertise and award a Traffic/Engineering Study to evaluate potential impacts of a road capital project to improve vehicular and pedestrian circulation and safety in the vicinity of the Valley Springs Elementary School.

DISCUSSION/SUMMARY:

Valley Springs Elementary School (VSES) has long been established in a residential neighborhood east of State Route 12 in Valley Springs. Morning drop-off and afternoon pick-up of students has resulted in congestion and pedestrian/vehicle conflicts in the vicinity of the VSES. Historically, County Public Works changed one block of Pine Street and Sequoia Avenue to one-way traffic to help alleviate the congestion at the school.

In 2012, the Calaveras Council of Governments (CCOG) and Public Works unsuccessfully applied for a state Active Transportation Program planning grant to scope and evaluate impacts of a potential Capital Improvement Project (CIP). Note that this application did not include construction. In 2016, CCOG and Public Works unsuccessfully applied for a State Partnership Planning Grant for this neighborhood to include planning activities to address the drop-off/pick-up issues. In 2017, this project was included as an unconstrained (funding unidentified) project within the Draft Regional Transportation Plan (RTP). This RTP is not yet completed.

With the new school year and an increasing population of students arriving at VSES via bus/car, congestion has worsened. Stakeholders including Calaveras Unified School District, District 1 County Supervisor, CCOG, California Highway Patrol (CHP) and County Public Works have had a series of meetings to discuss potential short-term implementation to relieve congestion, potential operational changes in drop-off/pick-up and the potential scope, schedule and funding of a longer-term CIP project.

Short term suggestions and operational changes include:

- Improved traffic striping and markings to clarify vehicle lanes.
- Relocation of some bus operations onto private property or another school ground location.

- Parent outreach.

A follow-up meeting to discuss short-term suggestions and potential operational changes is scheduled for September 21, 2017.

Longer term CIP project implementation process would include:

- Adoption by BOS of a CIP with estimated costs and identification of funding for project initiation and completion.
- Preparation of grant applications for project development, environmental document and construction or alternative funding sources for project implementation.

Items for consideration within a CIP may include expansion of one-way streets near the school, construction of loading/unloading area, construction of curb, gutter and sidewalks and limitation/reduction of on-street parking.

Note that a CIP project will require a Traffic/Engineering study to support the preparation/approval of a project Environmental Document.

This BOS item seeks approval to accelerate a Traffic/Engineering study prior to CIP implementation. Preliminary estimates of costs for a Traffic/Engineering study could range between \$10,000 and \$25,000.

FINANCING:

Available funding for this study is not identified in the FY 2017-18 Roads and Bridges budget. Staff will be bringing a modified Capital Improvement Plan to the Board of Supervisors to include this project and asking for Board direction on moving the priority of this item to the top of the plan implementation.

ALTERNATIVES:

The Board may deny this recommendation. If denied, the project will remain in the RTP and will be included with other proposed CIP projects for BOS prioritization and consideration at a subsequent BOS meeting.

OTHER AGENCY INVOLVEMENT:

Calaveras Council of Governments, Calaveras Unified School District, California Highway Patrol, and County Administrative Office.

APPROVED BY:

Traffic/Engineering Study for Valley Springs Elementary School
September 12, 2017



Jeff Crovitz, Director

9/8/2017



Diane Beverud, Deputy Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

9/8/2017



Megan Stedfeld, County Counsel

9/8/2017



Tim Lutz, County Administrative Officer

9/8/2017